

## General Overview of September 1, 2019 changes concerning OT Facilities and concerning CE

### Occupational Therapy Facility Registration Program Discontinued Effective September 1, 2019

The Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners' occupational therapy facility registration program has been discontinued as of September 1, 2019, due to changes to the OT Practice made by the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislature that repealed facility registration requirements on that date. In conjunction with these changes, Chapter 376, Registration of Facilities, was also repealed from the OT Rules, as were remaining regulations from the OT Rules concerning registering and maintaining occupational therapy facility registration.

Due to these changes, for example,

- Facilities will no longer register with the Board as occupational therapy facilities.
- Facilities will no longer maintain occupational therapy facility registration with the Board and will no longer renew the occupational therapy facility registration.
- Facilities are no longer required to designate an occupational therapist in charge.
- OT and OTAs who provide services in a facility are no longer required to work in registered occupational therapy facilities or facilities that met registration exemptions under the OT Rules.

Please note, furthermore, that the following has not changed, for example,

- OTs and OTAs in Texas must at all times comply with the OT Act and Rules.
- Occupational therapy services in Texas must be provided by OTs and OTAs licensed by this Board.

Refer to the full OT Act and Rules for further Board regulations: <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/ot-acts-and-rules>

### CE Changes Effective September 1, 2019

On September 1, 2019, CE rule changes took effect, including changes to the number of hours of continuing education required per renewal period.

Due to these changes, for renewals on or after September 1, 2019, **24 hours of CE is required.\***

In addition, activities approved or offered by AOTA or TOTA are pre-approved for CE credit for license renewal.

Please note that **licensees are not required to take pre-approved CE**. For courses from other providers, licensees are responsible for ensuring, for example, that such meet the definition of CE and are not an unacceptable activity as per §367.1, Continuing Education.

**Further CE changes have taken effect**, including the expansion of the fieldwork supervision category, the addition of the AOTA Benchmark as an acceptable activity, and the removal of some requirements regarding certain categories of CE, including the removal of a post-test requirement for Internet-based courses.

Refer to Chapter 367, Continuing Education, for further regulations all CE must meet. The [Continuing Education](#) page includes additional resources, as well.

\* Note that the change in Chapter 367 to now require 24 hours of CE for license renewal supersedes a provision in §370.1 that still states that 30 hours are required. As of September 1, 2019, only 24 hours of CE are required for license renewal as stated in §367.1, Continuing Education, of the OT Rules.

**Note: The information above is a general overview only. Updated PDFs of the compiled OT Act and OT Rules are available from the OT Act and Rules page and reflect the act and rule changes noted below, in addition to further changes effective September 1, 2019. The OT Act and Rules page may be accessed from this link: <https://www.ptot.texas.gov/page/ot-acts-and-rules>.**